

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

ESTELLE MCGECHIE,

Plaintiff,

v.

ATOMOS LIMITED, ET AL.,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2:22-cv-01812-DJC-DB

**SCHEDULING ORDER**

**I. SERVICE OF PROCESS**

The named defendants have been served as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5. No further service is permitted without leave of the Court, good cause having been shown under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b).

**II. JOINDER OF ADDITIONAL PARTIES / AMENDMENT OF PLEADINGS**

No further joinder of parties or amendments to pleadings is permitted without leave of the Court, good cause having been shown. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b); *Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc.*, 975 F.2d 27 604 (9th Cir. 1992).

**III. DISCOVERY PROCEDURES**

Discovery matters that do not implicate the schedule of the case or that do not relate to sealing or redaction of documents related to dispositive motions are referred to the assigned United States Magistrate Judge, who will hear all discovery disputes subject to his or her procedures. All discovery documents must include the words

1 “DISCOVERY MATTER” in the caption to ensure proper routing. Do not direct delivery  
2 of courtesy copies of these documents to the District Judge. Counsel are directed to  
3 review and comply with the case management procedures of the assigned Magistrate  
4 Judge when setting applicable discovery matters for hearing. All motions to compel  
5 discovery must be noticed on the assigned Magistrate Judge’s calendar in  
6 accordance with the local rules of this Court and the Magistrate Judge’s own  
7 procedures.

8 The written ruling of the assigned Magistrate Judge shall be final, subject to  
9 modification by the District Judge only where it has been shown that the Magistrate  
10 Judge’s order is clearly erroneous or contrary to law. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A).  
11 Pursuant to Local Rule 303, any party may file and serve a “Request for  
12 Reconsideration by the District Judge of Magistrate Judge’s Ruling.” See L.R. 303(c).  
13 The requesting party must file and serve any such request within fourteen (14) days of  
14 service of a written ruling. L.R. 303(b). The request must specify which portions of the  
15 ruling are clearly erroneous or contrary to law and the basis for that contention with  
16 supporting points and authorities. L.R. 303(c).

17 In addition, the assigned Magistrate Judge reviews proposed discovery phase  
18 protective orders sought by the parties pursuant to Local Rule 141.1. However,  
19 requests to seal or redact in connection with dispositive motions or trial are decided  
20 by Judge Calabretta and any such requests must comply with Judge Calabretta’s  
21 Standing Order and Local Rules 140 and 141.

#### 22 **IV. DISCOVERY DEADLINES**

##### 23 **A. Rule 26(a) Initial Disclosures**

24 If not already completed, all parties appearing shall make initial disclosures  
25 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 26(a)(1) on or before **May 24, 2024**.  
26 Any parties served or joined after the issuance of this scheduling order shall “make the  
27 initial disclosures within 30 days after being served or joined,” as provided by Rule  
28 26(a)(1)(D).

**B. Fact Discovery**

All fact discovery shall be completed<sup>1</sup> no later than **1/24/2025**.

**C. Expert Discovery**

The parties shall disclose initial experts and produce reports in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) by no later than **4/4/2025**. With regard to expert testimony intended solely for rebuttal, those experts shall be disclosed and reports produced in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) on or before **5/2/2025**. All expert discovery shall be completed no later than **5/30/2025**.

Disclosures of expert witnesses, if any, must be made pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(A), (B) and (C), and shall include all information required thereunder. Each expert witness must be fully prepared to be examined on all subjects and opinions included in the disclosures. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in the imposition of appropriate sanctions, including the preclusion of the expert's testimony, or of other evidence offered through the expert.

**D. Joint Mid-Discovery Statement**

By **10/18/2024**, all parties shall file with the Court a brief Joint Mid-Discovery Statement summarizing the current status of discovery proceedings. In this statement, parties should state whether parties are actively engaged in discovery and identify any issues preventing discovery from proceeding in a timely manner. The filing of this statement shall not relieve the parties or counsel of their obligations to meet and confer, comply the deadlines set by the court, and timely notice all appropriate discovery motions.

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<sup>1</sup> As used herein, the word "completed" means that all discovery shall have been conducted so that all depositions have been taken and any disputes relevant to discovery shall have been resolved by appropriate order if necessary and, where discovery has been ordered, the order has been obeyed. The parties are advised that motions to compel must be filed in advance of the discovery completion deadlines so that the Court may grant effective relief within the allotted discovery time. A party's failure to have a discovery dispute heard sufficiently in advance of the discovery cutoff may result in denial of the motion as untimely.

1 **V. MOTIONS**

2 All dispositive motions, except motions for continuances, temporary restraining  
3 orders, or other emergency applications, shall be filed on or before **8/8/2025** and  
4 shall be noticed for hearing before Judge Calabretta on **10/2/2024 at 1:30 p.m.**  
5 Counsel are directed to refer to the local rules and Judge Calabretta's Standing Order  
6 regarding the requirements for noticing and opposing such motions on the Court's  
7 regularly scheduled law and motion calendar.

8 All moving and opposition briefs or legal memoranda in civil cases shall not  
9 exceed twenty-five pages without prior leave of court. Reply briefs filed by moving  
10 parties shall not exceed fifteen pages. The Court will grant an application to extend  
11 these page limitations only after good cause shown. Pages that exceed the page  
12 limitations without leave of court will not be considered. Finally, no supplemental  
13 briefs or sur-replies shall be filed and will not be considered without prior leave of  
14 court.

15 Prior to filing a motion for summary judgment or motion for partial summary  
16 judgment (summary adjudication), the parties are ordered to meet and confer, in  
17 person or by telephone, to discuss the issues to be raised in the motion as required by  
18 Judge Calabretta's Standing Order. Failure to do so may result in denial of the  
19 motion. **In addition to complying with the requirements of Local Rule 260, the**  
20 **parties must prepare a Joint Statement of Undisputed Facts, which identifies all**  
21 **relevant facts subject to agreement by all parties.** The moving party is responsible  
22 for filing the joint statement concurrently with the motion. In the notice of motion, the  
23 moving party shall certify that the parties have met and conferred as ordered above or  
24 provide a statement of good cause for the failure to do so. In addition to the above,  
25 when filing any motion, parties should reference and ensure compliance with Judge  
26 Calabretta's Standing Order.

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**VI. SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE**

No Settlement Conference is currently scheduled. If the parties wish to have a settlement conference, one will be scheduled at the final pretrial conference or at an earlier time upon request of the parties.

**VII. FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE**

The final pretrial conference is set for **12/11/2025 at 1:30 p.m.** in Courtroom 10 before District Court Judge Daniel J. Calabretta. Hearings may be conducted by Zoom upon the joint request of all parties.

The parties are directed to file a **joint** pretrial statement that complies with the requirements of Local Rule 281 and Judge Calabretta's Standing Order in Civil Cases not less than seven (7) days prior to the Pretrial Conference. Counsel shall e-mail a copy of the joint pretrial statement in Word format to Judge Calabretta's chambers at [djorders@caed.uscourts.gov](mailto:djcorders@caed.uscourts.gov) immediately thereafter.

The parties' attention is directed to Local Rules 281 and 282. This Court will insist upon strict compliance with these rules. At the pretrial conference, the Court will set deadlines to file trial documents, including motions *in limine*, trial briefs, and proposed jury *voir dire*, instructions, and verdict forms (where applicable).

**VIII. JURY TRIAL**

A jury trial is set for **2/9/2026 at 8:30 a.m.** in Courtroom 10 before District Court Judge Daniel J. Calabretta. Trial is anticipated to last seven (7) court days.

**IX. RELATED MATTERS PENDING**

The parties have not alerted the court to any related litigation.

**X. OBJECTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS TO THE SCHEDULING ORDER**

**This case schedule will become final without further order of the Court unless objections are filed within fourteen (14) days of the entry of this order.**

The schedule, once final, shall not be modified except by leave of the Court upon showing of good cause. Counsel shall contact Judge Calabretta's courtroom deputy, Gabriel Michel, via e-mail at [gmichel@caed.uscourts.gov](mailto:gmichel@caed.uscourts.gov), prior to filing a stipulation

1 and proposed order to continue the dates set forth herein.

2 The parties are reminded that pursuant to Rule 16(b) of the Federal Rules of  
3 Civil Procedure, no stipulations extending scheduling requirements or modifying  
4 applicable rules are effective until and unless the Court approves them. Agreement of  
5 the parties by stipulation alone does not constitute good cause. Counsel are  
6 cautioned that requests or stipulations to continue dispositive motion deadlines or  
7 trial dates must establish good cause exists and are not granted lightly.

8 Any request or stipulation to modify this scheduling order must set forth:

- 9 1. The existing due date or hearing date as well as the discovery cutoff date,  
10 the last date for hearing motions, the final pretrial conference date, and the  
11 trial date;
- 12 2. Whether there have been prior requests for extensions, and whether these  
13 were granted or denied by the Court; and
- 14 3. Specific, concrete reasons supporting good cause for granting of the  
15 extension. For example, if the reason for the requested extension is that it  
16 "will promote settlement," the requesting party or parties must indicate the  
17 status of ongoing negotiations, e.g., that a mediator has been selected;  
18 written proposals have been exchanged; a draft settlement agreement is  
19 being reviewed by counsel; etc.

20 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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22 Dated: May 8, 2024

/s/ Daniel J. Calabretta

23 THE HONORABLE DANIEL J. CALABRETTA  
24 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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